

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7491

BILL NUMBER: HB 1217

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 3, 2005

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Release of Adoption History.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Frizzell

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a person, a licensed child placing agency, or a county Office of Family and Children to release to an adult adoptee certain social, medical, psychological, and educational records and reports concerning the adoptee, including adoption information from adoptions granted before July 1, 1993.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill requires a county Office of Family and Children to provide, upon request, an adoptee who is at least 18 years of age with a report summarizing the available medical, psychological, and educational records of the adoptee's birth parents. Current statute only requires that this information be provided to the adoptive parents: (a) not later than the time the child is placed with the adoptive parents, or (b) with the consent of the adoptive parents, not more than 30 days after the child is placed with the adoptive parents.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: (1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; (4) funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) new appropriations.

Explanation of State Revenues: The Department of Health Office of Vital Records is currently required in statute to supply medical information about birth parents to adoptees upon request. The fee is \$8. The Office reports that it receives approximately 50 inquiries per week. The Office may experience a reduction in the

number of inquiries it receives, and, as a result, experience a reduction in revenue.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Family and Social Services Administration.

Local Agencies Affected: Local Offices of Family and Children.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Sarah Brooks, 317-232-9559.